



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

*Central Office
320 First St., NW
Washington, DC 20534*

March 25, 2019

Beryl Lipton
MuckRock News
Dept. MR 70816
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Beryl Lipton:

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) received your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request. Your request has been assigned a number and forwarded to the processing office noted below. Please make a note of the request number and processing office as you will need to include it in any correspondence or inquiry regarding your request. A copy of the first page of your request is attached to help you more easily keep track of your request.

FOIA/PA Request Number: 2019-02962
Processing Office: CO

The time needed to complete our processing of your request depends on the complexity of our records search and the volume and complexity of any records located. Each request is assigned to one of three tracks: simple, complex, or expedited. Due to the large number of FOIA/PA requests received by BOP and the limited resources available to process such requests, BOP handles each request on a first-in, first-out basis in relation to other requests in the same track. Your request was assigned to the complex track and placed in chronological order based on the date of receipt.

We determined unusual circumstances exist as the documents responsive to your request must be searched for and collected from a field office, and/or the documents responsive to your request are expected to be voluminous and will require significant time to review. Because of these unusual circumstances, we are extending the time limit to respond to your request for the ten additional days provided by the statute. Processing complex requests may take up to nine months. Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.5(b) and (c), you may narrow or modify your request in an effort to reduce the processing time.

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 16.10, in certain circumstances we are required to charge fees for time spent searching for or duplicating responsive documents. If we anticipate your fees will be in excess of \$25.00 or the amount you have indicated you are willing to pay, we will notify you of the estimated amount. At that time, you will have the option to reformulate your request to reduce the fees. If you requested a fee waiver, we will make a decision whether to grant your request after we determine whether fees will be assessed for this request.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss reformulation or an alternative time frame for the processing of your request, please feel free to contact the CO at 202-616-7750 or the Federal Bureau of Prisons' (BOP) FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. C. Darnell Stroble at 202-616-7750, 320 First

Street NW, Suite 936, Washington DC 20534, or ogc_efoia@bop.gov. You can also check the status of your request on line at <http://www.bop.gov/PublicInfo/execute/foia>.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information, Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

3/25/2019

X 

S. Lilly, GIS, for
Eugene E. Baime, Supervisory Attorney
Signed by: SARAH LILLY

From: <70816-96181510@requests.muckrock.com>
To: <ogc_efoia@bop.gov>
Date: 3/22/2019 6:07 PM
Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: FOIA March Madness 2019 - FOIA funding, staffing, and activities (Bureau of Prisons)

Bureau of Prisons
FOIA Office
Room 841, HOLC Building
320 First Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20534

March 22, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

The following materials related to the funding, staffing, and activities of this FOIA office:

Budget materials

- - - >>> for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019, all budget materials or plans applicable to offices responsible for processing and response to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

Staffing orders/reports/contacts

- - - >>> for the years 2017 and 2018, staffing reports and plans, including the count of employee numbers and for offices responsible for processing and responses to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

- If this report is available in a form that includes the total number of hours worked for FOIA personnel, that version would be preferred.

- If reports are available for each month, that version is preferred.

- According to this agency's "About Us" website (<https://www.doi.gov/foia/About-Us>):

"The Department has decentralized its FOIA operations among 13 bureaus and offices, each of which has a Bureau/Office FOIA Officer leading its separately managed and resourced FOIA Program. Secretarial Order 3244 (November 12, 2002) anchored Bureau/Office FOIA Offices within their respective CIOs' Offices. That order was superseded by Secretarial Order 3309 (December 14, 2010), which replaced Bureau/Office CIOs with Assistant Directors for Information Resources and initiated a series of significant ongoing organizational changes as part of the Department's IT Transformation.

Bureau/office FOIA Officers are responsible for tracking, managing and responding to FOIA requests for records in their organization's possession and control, and administering their organization's FOIA programs. In addition to Bureau/Office FOIA Officers, some bureaus/offices also have Regional FOIA Coordinators and Field Offices that process requests. Some bureaus/offices have their program offices (i.e., the offices whose records are the subject of the requests) prepare the responses to FOIA requests. These responses are reviewed by the FOIA Officer or Regional FOIA Coordinator and the appropriate FOIA attorney (when the decision is to withhold information, make a discretionary release, or deny a fee waiver)."

- - - >>> all staffing reports and plans for the year 2019

- If reports are available for each month, such a version is preferred.

- - - >>> contact information, including email addresses and phone numbers (if available), for each FOIA officer currently tasked with an open public records request

FOIA requester categories

- - - >>> for the years 2017 and 2018, the designated category of each requester of a FOIA request to this office, including those assigned to the following categories:

* commercial;

* educational and noncommercial scientific institutions;

* representative of news media requester;

* all other requesters

- If this information is kept in an aggregate form including the number of requesters by fee category by year, a copy of this report will suffice to fulfill this element of the request.

FOIA fee waivers

- - - >>> for the years 2017 and 2018, the number of fee waivers granted by this office and, if available, the tracking numbers for the FOIA requests to which waivers were granted

FOIA fee collection

- - - >>> for the years 2017 and 2018, any report capturing the following information:

* total estimated processing and copy fees quoted to FOIA requesters

* total processing and copy fees collected by this Bureau from each fee category

- If this information is kept in an aggregate form, such as a FOIA log, that material would be sufficient to satisfy the bullet points "FOIA requester categories" and "FOIA fee collection" if it captures the following information:

- * FOIA tracking number
- * requester fee category
- * amount processing and copy fees associated with the request
- * the status of the requester's payment for the request

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Beryl Lipton

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 70816-96181510@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly:

https://www.muckrock.com/accounts/agency_login/bureau-of-prisons-41/foia-march-madness-2019-foia-funding-staffing-and-activities-bureau-of-prisons-70816/?email=ogc_foia%40bop.gov&uuid-login=0eea9a4f-d06f-4850-aeda-ba565a1ecd01#agency-reply

Is this email coming to the wrong contact? Something else wrong? Use the above link to let us know.

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70816
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request was filed by a MuckRock staff reporter. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.